

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) ~~Material~~ A material formed from ~~SAP~~ a superabsorbent polymer and fibers that is obtainable by *in situ* polymerization of the ~~SAP~~ superabsorbent polymer and by pressing at not less than 60°C and not less than 3 bar.

2. (Currently amended) ~~Materials as~~
~~elaimed in~~ The material of claim 1 ~~that are~~ obtainable by pressing at not less than 70°C.

3. (Currently amended) ~~Materials as~~
~~elaimed in~~ The material of claim 1 ~~that are~~ obtainable by pressing at not less than 80°C.

4. (Currently amended) ~~Materials as~~
~~elaimed in any~~ The material of ~~elaims~~ claim 1 ~~to 3 that~~ are obtainable by pressing at not less than 5 bar.

5. (Currently amended) ~~Materials as~~
~~elaimed in any~~ The material of ~~elaims~~ claim 1 ~~to 3 that~~ are obtainable by pressing at not less than 10 bar.

6. (Currently amended) ~~Materials as~~
~~elaimed in any~~ The material of ~~elaims~~ claim 1 ~~to 5 that~~ expands not less than 5-fold in one dimension and by less than 20% in the other two dimensions on addition of water.

7. (Currently amended) ~~Material~~ A material formed from ~~SAP~~ a superabsorbent polymer and fibers that expands not less than 5-fold in one dimension and by less than 20% in the other two dimensions on addition of water.

8. (Currently amended) ~~Material as claimed in any~~ The material of ~~claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 7~~ that expands not less than 10-fold in one dimension and by less than 10% in the other two dimensions on addition of water.

9. (Currently amended) ~~Material as claimed in any~~ The material of ~~claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 8~~ that has a density in the range from not less than 0.5 g/ccm to 1.2 g/ccm.

10. (Currently amended) ~~Material as claimed in any~~ The material of ~~claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 9~~ ~~where the~~ wherein a ratio of teabag to retention in 0.9% NaCl solution is greater than 2.

11. (Currently amended) ~~Material as claimed in any~~ The material of ~~claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 10~~ ~~where the~~ wherein retention in 0.9% NaCl solution is greater than 3 g/ccm.

12. (Currently amended) ~~Material as claimed in any~~ The material of ~~claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 11~~ ~~where the~~ wherein an increase in thickness 60 days after compression is less than 100% based on the thickness directly after compression.

13. (Currently amended) ~~Material as claimed in any~~ The material of ~~claims claim~~ claim 1 to ~~12~~ where the ~~wherein an~~ FSEV after 60 seconds is at least double that of the ~~an~~ uncompressed material.

14. (Currently amended) ~~Material as claimed in any~~ The material of ~~claims claim~~ claim 1 to ~~13~~ where the ~~wherein an~~ FSEV after 2 minutes is at least 60% higher than that of the ~~an~~ uncompressed material.

15. (Currently amended) ~~Material as claimed in any~~ The material of ~~claims claim~~ claim 1 to ~~14~~ where the ~~wherein an~~ EVUL after 60 seconds is at least double that of the ~~an~~ uncompressed material.

16. (Currently amended) ~~Material as claimed in any~~ The material of ~~claims claim~~ claim 1 to ~~16~~ where the ~~wherein an~~ EVUL after 2 minutes is at least 60% higher than that of the ~~an~~ uncompressed material.

17. (Currently amended) ~~Material as claimed in any~~ The material of ~~claims claim~~ claim 1 to ~~16~~ where the ~~wherein an~~ AAP (0.7 psi) in 0.9% NaCl solution is greater than 5 g/ccm.

18. (Currently amended) ~~Laminates A~~ laminate comprising a material ~~as claimed in any of~~ ~~claims claim~~ claim 1 to ~~17~~.

19. Cancelled.

20. Cancelled.

21. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ A process for producing a compressed material comprising ~~SAP~~ a superabsorbent polymer, obtainable by *in situ* polymerization of the ~~SAP~~ superabsorbent polymer, and fiber by pressing at about 60°C and about 3 bar.

22. (New) A method of absorbing water vapor comprising contacting the water vapor with a material of claim 1.

23. (New) A method of absorbing an aqueous fluid comprising contacting the aqueous fluid with a material of claim 1.

24. (New) The method of claim 23 wherein the aqueous fluid comprises a body fluid.